











신총사(철악산)의 설경 Winter comes to the Shinhung Temple in Mount Sorak.





Pollacks are being dried on racks on Korea's east coast.





## 위커힐의 한국관 내부 An interior scene of the Korean Mansion at Walker Hill Resort in Seoul.





Girls dress in traditional costumes during the Korean Artistic Culture Festival.





석굴암의 석가여래 좌상 A 1,200-year old stone Buddha figure, 3.4 meters in height, in Wolsunggun, Kyongsang Pukdo Province.





삼천포의 학성 A view of Hak-Sung, literally "Crane Castle", in Kyongsang Namdo Province.





시 같 시 소 군 로 A view of Susomoon-ro, one of the busiest streets in the capital city of Seoul.





A farmer ploughs his rice paddy at the foot of Mount Mai.





## 경복궁에서

Kindergarten children play games in the Kyungbok-kung Palace garden in Seoul.





## 칸트리 클럽

Golfers are enjoying their games at the Seoul Country Club.





청자상감 모란국화문 과형병 A classic Koryo Dynasty celadon vase, 25.6 cm in height, with inlaid peony design.





수출용 연초 재배 Tobacco plants are raised on this farm especially for export use.





경희대학교 본관 A view of the classic portico of Kyunghee University in Seoul.





해운대 해수욕장 Crowds gather at the waterside of the famous Haeundae Beach in Pusan.





서울 운동장에서의 수구 경기 A high school water polo tournament is in progress at the Seoul Athletic Ground Pool.





국민학교 연구 수업 The teacher and students work out on science experiment together at an elementary school in Seoul.





신진 자동차 공업 가장 내부 New cars are being assembled at the Shinjin Automobile Factory.





경복궁 근정전의 천정 용각 The colorful dragon painting on the ceiling of the Kunjongjun Hall at Kyungbok Palace built in 1867.





수원 근교의 농장 The rich, golden rice fields of Suwon viewed from the air.





A parade held on the Armed Forces Day.





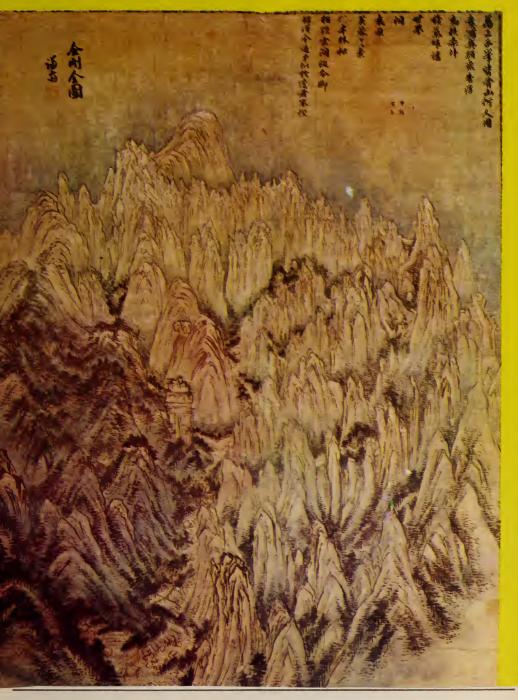
Workmen operate modern equipment in the cold steel rolling factory of the Yunhap Steel Manufacturing Co., Ltd.





미스 태평양 한국 대표 선발 대회 Lovely young women compete with one another in the national elimination for the Miss Pacific Beauty Contest.



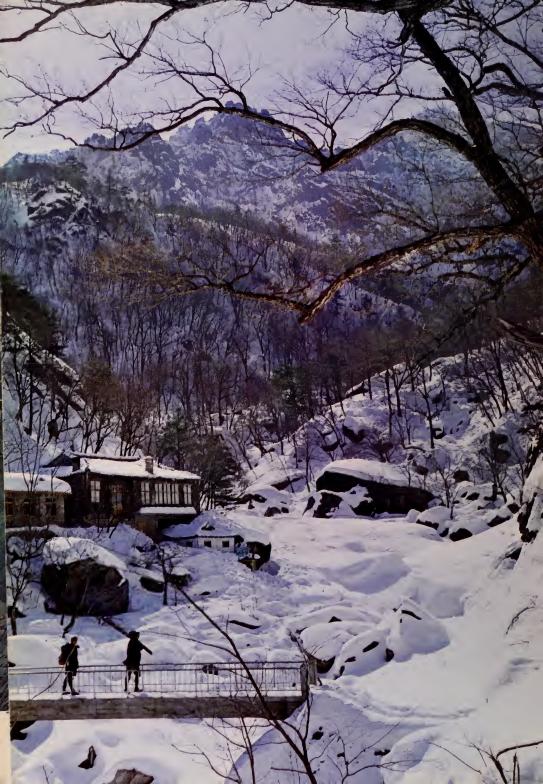


월정사 팔각 구충탑 A view of the 15-meter high, octagonal-shaped, nine-storied pagoda in Mount Odae in Pyungchang-gun, Kangwondo Province.





장성 광업소 선탄장 A view of the coal-dressing plant of the Changsung Mining Company.





설악산의 설경 Winter snow means skiing time in Mount Sorak.



#### KOREA

Korea is a peninsula extending from Manchuria and the U.S.S.R. southward, 525 miles long and from 125 to 200 miles wide. It is bounded on the north by the Yalu and Tumen rivers, on the south by the Straits of Korea, on the west by the Yellow Sea, and on the east by the Eastern Sea. There are about 3,500 islands along the 5,400-mile coast line. The total area of Korea is approximately 85,266 square miles.

### The Land

**GEOLOGY:** Korea is a mountainous land of diverse geology. The northern interior forms a broad continental base; it is similar geologically to the adjacent areas of Manchuria. The drainage divide of central Korea lies in the eastern part of the peninsula, a high, mountainous terrain composed chiefly of Archeozoic rocks, granite, gneiss, mica schist and other metamorphics. The southeastern part of the peninsula, of considerably less relief, is composed largely of Cretaceous and Tertiary sedimentary rocks interspersed by late Tertiary granitic intrusions.

Mt. Paektu on the northern border is a volcanic caldera with a crater lake. Some of the higher elevations are capped by lava flows from Mt. Paektu and other volcanoes. Ullung Island in the Eastern Sea and Cheju (Quelpart) Island off the southwest coast are both volcanic in origin, Mt. Halla on Cheju was last active in 1007. A.D. Korea has no active volcanoes and very rare earthquake shocks, a striking contrast with nearby Japan. **PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY:** The Tumen and Yalu rivers which originate on the slopes of volcanic Mt. Paektu form the country's northern border. Located in the heart of the Far East, the peninsula is of great strategic importance.

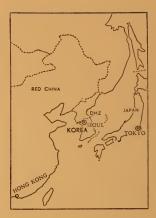
Extending southward from the mountainous northern interior, close to the eastern coast, a major mountain chain throws off spurs to the west and south. Thus, mountains are found in profusion throughout the peninsula; some of the earliest western travelers likened the land to "a sea in a heavy gale." The eastern coast is rugged and has tides that rise only

부산 다대포의 낙조

The sun reflects its rays on the waves at Dadaepo in Pusan.

flats where the tides rise from 20 to 30 feet.

The main rivers drain to the west and south. Some of these are navigable in their lower courses for small boats. Notable are the Naktong in the southeast, the Han in the center, the Taedong in the north and the Yalu on the northwestern border. The southwestern coast is a maze of islands and peninsulas. Offshore from it about 50 miles is Korea's largest island, volcanic Cheju. Korea has no wide alluvial plain, and only one-fifth of the land is arable. Most of this agricultural land is along the coastal margins and in the



river basins. The south has more extensive plains and is favored by a mild winter, so that two crops may be grown in a year and a dense population supported. Though many of Korea's hills have been denuded of their trees, there are still extensive coniferous and mixed forests.

The peninsula is a source of rice and raw materials; the Koreans have developed numerous mineral resources, particularly coal, iron ore, copper, gold, graphite and tungsten. Taking advantage of the terrain, some large-scale hydroelectric plants were built and, as a consequence, chemical, light metal and other industries are developed. The capital, Seoul, has large industrial suburbs producing consumer goods.

The most important ports, which are also industrial centers for rice milling and the processing of raw materials, are Pusan in the southeast; Pohang and Kangnung along the northeast coast; Mokpo and Kunsan in the southwest; Inchor, which serves the capital.

The post-World War II split of the hitherto unified land by an artificial barrier, the 38th parallel of latitude, accentuated the latent geographic differences between the northern and southern parts of the peninsula. Korea, as its name may be translated, is a land of high mountains and sparkling streams, but it was ravished in the fighting which took place between June 1950 and July 1953

CLIMATE: The climate of Korea is humid and continental, similar in many respects to the region between Georgia and Maine in the United States. Korea, however, has a pronounced rainy season in the summer and relatively dry winters. The yearly rainfall varies from about 60 inches along the shores of southern Korea to 25 inches in the northern interior. The summers are hot throughout Korea, with average August temperatures for most of the peninsula above 75° F. The hot, moist summers are well suited for growing rice, the desired crop of the Korean farmer. Winters in the north are dry and cold, with temperatures well below freezing. In the south the winters are relatively mild; average January temperatures along the southern coast are above 32° F.

**VEGETATION:** More than 3,400 species and varieties and 880 genera of vascular plants are known from Korea. Larch, spruce, fir and birch dominate the northern regions bordering China. In the Yalu valley and middle Korea the prevailing floristic features are pine and deciduous hardwoods such as maple, basswood, birch, poplar, oak, ash, hornbeam, elm, chestnut, hackberry and, infrequently magnolia and yew. Wild Manchurian peony and lilies beautify the countryside. The flora of the southern coastal areas and Cheju Island includes many southern forms such as evergreen oak, lauraceous trees, bamboo and camellia.

**ANIMAL LIFE:** The native animal life of Korea is in general strikingly similar to that of Europe. Among mammals there are in addition such notable forms as the tiger, snow leopard and musk deer. The ring-necked pheasant is native instead of introduced. The larger mammals include, besides those named, wolf and bear, wild boar, red deer, roe deer and the goral, a goat antelope. The common toad and various frogs are directly related to those of north China and thus to those of Europe as well. The salamanders include the peculiarly Asiatic Hynobius. There are a few lizards and several species of snakes, which include two small venomous species, a pit viper and the common viper.

#### History

**LEGEND:** Korean history has a legendary past beginning in 2333 B.C. According to legend, Hwanung, son of the Creator, came to earth, found a beautiful young woman (who had just been transformed from a bear

into a human being) and breathed on her; she gave birth to Tangun, who became the first King of Korea. His dynasty is supposed to have ruled for more than thousand years.

**THREE KINGDOMS:** The first period in the recorded history of Korea is called the Period of the Three Kingdoms. The year 57 B.C. is generally given as the beginning of the period, since in that year the kingdom of Silla was founded out of the area of Chinhan in southeast Korea. In 37 B.C. Pyonhan became a part of Silla. The kingdom of Koguryo was founded in 37 B.C. in northern Korea in the area formerly under Chinese control. The third kingdom was Paekche, in southwest Korea, which was established in 18 B.C. out of the area of Mahan. A fourth state, Karak, existed from 42 to 562 A.D. in the southern tip of Korea around the modern city of Pusan.

**SILLA:** The three kingdoms waged war on each other continually over a period of 700 years, and finally in 660 A.D. Paekche, and in 668 Koguryo, passed under the control of Silla.

The unification of the peninsula under Silla lasted until 935. During this period Chinese culture, including Buddhism, was dominant. Literature, art and science made rapid progress. The language of the peninsula became almost completely homogeneous.

**KORYO:** One of Silla's generals, Wanggun, revolted and was recognized by the king of Silla in 918 as ruler of an independent state whose capital was established at what is now Kaesong, near Seoul. In 935 the last king of Silla abdicated and Wanggun established the kingdom of Koryo, which lasted until 1392. The name "Korea," as applied by westerners, is said to be derived from Koryo.

Under the Wang dynasty Koryo was dominated by Buddhism. Koryo generally enjoyed good relations with China, but it was at war many times with the Kitan who controlled Manchuria. In 1231 the Mongols invaded Koryo and occupied the country ruthlessly until 1364, when Mongol forces were defeated by Korean troops led by General Yi Taejo.

CHOSON: General Yi deposed the last Wang ruler in 1392 and estab-

lished his own dynasty, which was to remain in power until the Japanese annexation of Korea in 1910. The Ming emperor of China recognized the new Yi dynasty and named Korea Chaohsien or Choson, also referred to as Chosun. Hanyang, the present city of Seoul, was made capital.

Under the Yi dynasty Korea flourished intellectually and culturally. Buddhism was curbed and land held by Buddhist monasteries was distrib uted among the people. In 1403, about 50 years before Johann Gutenberg, Chinese characters were printed in movable type. In 1420 a royal college of literature was established. In 1443 hangeul, the phonetic alphabet, was developed. During the first 150 years of the dynasty scholarship was widespread in medicine, astronomy, geology, history and agriculture.

At the end of the 16th century Korea suffered from the first of two invasions that took place in a 50-year period. In 1592 Japan invaded Korea. After seven years of conflict and occupation the Japanese troops were withdrawn. During this period the Koreans, led by Adm. Yi Sunsin, won a famous naval victory over the Japanese in Chinhai Bay, aided by an ironclad ship built in the shape of a tortoise.

In 1627 the Manchus, who were threatening the power of the Ming dynasty in China, invaded and occupied Korea and forced the ruler to admit the soverignty of the Manchus before withdrawing. The Manchu Ch'ing dynasty established itself in 1644. Korea maintained a tributary status with Manchu China by which China's suzerainty was recognized; in practice, however, this did not interfere with Korea's independence.

**JAPANESE ANNEXATION:** An isolationist policy was adopted until 1876, when for the first time a commercial treaty was concluded with Japan. Having won the first Sino-Japanese War and the subsequent Russo-Japanese War, Japan annexed Korea in 1910.

The head of the new regime was the governor general, who was appointed by the Japanese emperor and responsible to him through the Japanese overseas ministry. (In Nov. 1942 Korea was forced to become an integral part of Japan, and jurisdiction for its affairs was transferred to the home ministry.) The governor general appointed all officers of the government, issued decrees and imposed fines or prison sentences. Most positions in the government were given to Japanese, even posts of district magistrate and village head. Virtually all higher posts were held by Japanese, while Koreans were appointed to clerical and minor posts.

The Japanese controlled Korea solely by force, exercised by the police and the Japanese army. The police operated throughout the country in every community. In 1941 there was one policeman to every 400 persons.

Korean people made continual resistance to the Japanese, first armed resistance and, after World War I, passive resistance. The Japanese ruthlessly attempted to suppress Korean nationalism whenever it appeared, and thousands were killed or imprisoned.

**REPUBLIC OF KOREA:** Following the outbreak of World War II, the independence of Korea was promised at the Cairo Conference. The termination of the war brought division to Korea across the 38th parallel with the Russians occupying the territories north of the 38th parallel and United States those south of the parallel.

General elections were held in South Korea on May 10, 1948, under the supervision of the UN commission. The national assembly met for the first time on May 31, and elected Syngman Rhee chairman. A constitution for the Republic of Korea was adopted and promulgated in July. Syngman Rhee was elected the first president. The Republic of Korea was inaugurated on August 15, 1948.

In June 1950 the north Korean Communists invaded the Republic of Korea and the United Nations troops of 16 participating countries came to help the Republic repel the enemy. In 1953 the Korean Military Armistice agreement was signed at Panmunjom, but Korea still remains divided.

In April 1960, a student uprising brought downfall of the Rhee Government. In May 1961, the equally corrupt but weak and hopelessly inefficient parliamentary government headed by Chang Myon was toppled overnight in a swift, bloodless coup executed by members of the Revolutionary Committee. The Supreme Council for National Reconstruction headed by Chairman, General Park Chung-hee ruled the country until December 1963.

In October 1963 general elections were held and the candidate of the Democratic Republican Party, President Park Chung-hee, won. He was inaugurated on December 15, in the same year. At the same time the National Assembly was reactivated so that the transfer from a military government to a civilian one was completed.

The Republic of Korea is the symbol of Free World in opposition to Communist imperialistic expansion. Here, the soldiers of sixteen nations fought to uphold the principles of the United Nations Charter. The casualties suffered during that terrible war by the Armed Forces and civilian population of this country and its United Nations Allies were appalling. The Government assures its allies and other members of the Free World that there is no intention to abandon the principles of true democracy, and that the determination to convert these principles into actual practice is inflexible at any cost.

#### Social Conditions

**THE PEOPLE:** Because of its geographic location, Korea for many centuries has been the migration route along which the different races and cultures of the Orient ebbed and flowed. Japan, for example, is believed to have been first inhabited by the Ainus (a Caucasian race still existing in northern Japan), who migrated from Central Asia in prehistoric times through Korea, leaving a strong Caucasian traces which is still noticeable in present-day Koreans.

The Koreans are an ancient and homogenous race, distinct from both the Chinese and the Japanese. Thought to be descendants from two strains—the nomadic tribes of Mongolia and the Caucasian people of western Asia—the Koreans have both Oriental and Occidental characteristics. Physically the people are generally larger and stronger than most Orientals, with much more pleasing and regular facial features. Through countless generations of conditioning, the Korean people have developed amazing physical strength and toughness, and resistance to diseases that have enable them to survive and prosper even under very adverse conditions.

**POPULATION:** According to the 1940 census, the population of Korea including the northern part was approximately 25,000,000. Based on the 1964 census, the Republic of Korea has a population of about 28,000,000; male, 14,144,000 and female, 14,037,000.

LANGUAGE: The Korean language belongs to the Ural-Altaic group,

which also includes the Mongol, Turkic and Japanese (but not the Chinese) tongues; the Korean spoken tongue and the vocabulary are dissimilar to the other languages of the group. Although Korean and Japanese have about the same grammatical structure, they are otherwise quite distinct. Each province has its original dialects, but they are not sufficiently different to provide any barrier to comprehension. The written language of Korea is a hybrid of Sino-Korean forms, for the culture of Korea was greatly influenced by that of China for the past several thousand years.

**EDUCATION:** Reverence for scholarship has been traditional in Korea from time immemorial. But never in the history of Korea has there been such a great demand for popular education as there is today. Never has education been attempted on such a large scale and so earnestly in Korea as in recent years. It is gratifying to see the renewed vigor with which the Korean Government has taken the lead in speeding the progress of what has long been regarded as the most important activity education.

Elementary Education: All citizens of the Republic of Korea are entitled to free elementary education under the provisions of the Constitution. Furthermore, it is incumbent upon the parents to see that their children receive education at facilities provided by the state.

At 4,930 elementary schools some five million children between the ages of six and twelve receive free education. The Ministry of Education, in co-operation with related government agencies, conducts vigorous efforts to provide qualitative education to match the quantitative increase in school children.

Secondary Education: Secondary education in Korea consists of three years of middle school and three years of high school. Most secondary schools are devoted to general education, but there are a growing number of vocational and technical schools at the high school level.

At present, there are 1,113 middle schools in Korea, with a total enrollment of about 750,000 middle school and 220,000 high school students.

Vocational education in Korea has assumed greater importance. Full scale vocational training starts at high school level. There are 321 vocational schools, including 118 agricultural schools, 41 technical schools, 96 commercial schools, 12 marine and fisheries schools, 18 normal schools and 36 other specialized schools.

Higher Education: As in Western nations, colleges and universities form the backbone of Korea's higher education. All have four-year courses, except for the medical colleges which have six-year courses. Graduate students are required to attend graduate courses for at least two years before applying for a master's degree, and a minimum of an additional three years before applying for a doctorate. Junior colleges offer two-year courses.

The degrees conferred on graduates of colleges and graduate schools include bachelor's and master's degrees in literature, theology, fine arts, music, law, political science, economics, commerce, science, engineering, medicine, dentistry, pharmacology, agriculture, veterinary science, and marine science. Doctorates are offered in literature, philosophy, theology, economics, law, medicine, science, pharmacology, engineering, agriculture, and veterinary science.

Korea has 18 universities, 45 colleges and 37 junior colleges, with a total enrollment of more than 150,000 students. There are 28 graduate schools, with a total enrollment of 2,800 students

**RELIGION:** Koreans are deeply religious people, manifesting a fundamental belief in spiritual forces. Yet no one faith has held for long the loyalty of the people as a whole.

Religion in Korea has reflected foreign influences. It was likened to a three-legged stool based on Shamanism, Buddhism, and Confucianism, until the introduction of Christianity in the 19th century.

Primitive Religion: The ancient religious beliefs of Korea contained some of the same teachings as Christianity. For instance, the people worshiped one God, whom they called Haneunim, and they believed in personal sin and punishment. In ancient times, a primitive mixture of sun worship, mountain worship and ancestor worship was later blended with many elements of polytheism and nature worship.

Shamanism had no known founder or even any scripture of its own. Today, only token traces of this ancient indigenous religion are found in rural areas.

Buddhism: The first Buddhist missionary arrived in Korea from China in 369 A.D. Buddhism reached Korea in the form called Mahayana, or the Great Vehicle. This religion spread rapidly through the Korean peninsula and was passed on to Japan. But it was not until 524 A.D. that it assumed a dominant role in Korea. For the next 200 years it was recognized as the state religion, and from time to time monks dominated as the temporal rulers.

Buddhism was at its zenith in Korea in the 11th century when it was decreed that if a man had four sons one must become a monk. It was during this time that many of the religious buildings in Korea were constructed, and a great part of the wealth of the country was devoted to religious purposes.

The Buddhists believe in individual immortal souls, in a vicarious salvation through Buddha, in reincarnation, in confessional, and in a hell and a heaven, achieved through faith. They believe that the six virtues charity, morality, patience, energy, contemplation, and wisdom—must be attained in order to pass from this world of misery to the shore of holiness of the Buddha heavens.

Buddhism brought rare beauty to Korea, including stately old temples richly stained, gilded, and carved; exquisite rituals, and an ecclesiastical pageantry which endeared itself to the Koreans, particularly to the women. Confucianism: Confucianism in Korea steadily increased with the growth of Chinese influence. A century before Columbus discovered America, Confucianism became dominant in Korea, with the birth of Yi Dynasty in 1392.

Confucianism became the religion and culture of the learned and official classes, thus becoming a strong national influence. Ancestor worship was the heart of Confucianism, and it had remained a national practice in Korea through the centuries. Confucianism, strictly considered, is more a system of ethics than a religion and has a deep influence on Korean ethical life. Its results are to produce cultured and urbane agnostics with a Stoic background and a great insistence on the repression of all emotions. Today, this trend can be found in the attitude of the Korean people —sometimes over-polite and expressionless.

Christianity: Just as Buddhism and Confucianism came to Korea with the combined philosophical prestige of India and China, so Christianity brought the modern influence, together with Western culture. It came to Korea and effectively developed in the 19th century. The first hundred years of Christianity was a period of martyrdom. The Catholic priests preferred to die rather than to abandon their flocks. Truly in Korea the blood of the martyrs has been the seed of the church. The first Catholic diocese was established by Pope Gregory in 1831, and Protestant missionaries of various denominations followed about 1883.

The success with which the new doctrine was accepted may be attributed not only to the religious nature of the Koreans, but to the fact that Christian ethics placed great emphasis on love, justice, and personal freedom. Missionary practice supplied the gifts of modern Western education and medical care to all, regardless of age or position. This furthered a better understanding of the West by imparting a knowledge of mordern material science.

There are 9,000 Christian churches of all denominations scattered throughout the country. Of these, 6,851 churches are Protestant, serving more than one million members. There are more than 2,000 Catholic churches with more than 620,000 believers.

Chondo-gyo: Peculiar to Korea is the indigenous religion Chondo-gyo "the Sect of the Heavenly Way" sometimes known as the Eastern Sect. The doctrine taught by this religion is a combination of Shamanism, Confucianism and Buddhism on a monotheistic basis. Today, there are 129 Chondogyo churches with about 600,000 adherents

#### Customs and Culture

**DRESS:** The traditional dress of Korea consists of loose white robes and wide trousers for the man, and short, close-fitting jackets and vividlycolored flowing skirts for the women. Today most men (particularly in urban areas) have adoped Western dress, discarding the tradition at Korean costumes which are still common for the women

**FOODS:** The principal food in the Korean diet are rice, vegetables, poultry and fish. The most popular side dish is "kimchi," a highly spiced pickled combination of turnips, cabbage, and other vegetables. "Ddeog" or Korean bread made of rice with ingredients of dates, chestnuts, red beans, etc., is loved by all people and it is one of the principal foods on such occasions as Lunar New Year and other festivals.

**DWELLINGS:** All Korean houses are provided with an underfloor heating system called "ondol." The "ondol" floor is made of flat granite stones about 12 by 18 inches and 2 inches thick supported on rows of stones thus providing flues which heat the floors. The traditional Korean houses are usually roofed with straw. The average Korean house has two to four rooms, a kitchen and a wooden floor room. When entering rooms shoes must be removed.

**CULTURE:** The culture of Korean people is the expression of the totality of their life and thought, and provides them with the inspiration and strength which have enable the peninsular country to endure. The flexibility and facility of the Korean language, its scientific alphabet, and the early invention of movable type (1234) have provided a strong foundation upon which the Korean culture stands.

In the fine arts, the Koreans have achieved a distinguished place among Oriental civilizations. Painting was appreciated at an early date, but little of it survived destruction by rain and wind. The most notable exceptions are the mural paintings in the stone tombs of the third to sixth century Koguryo dynasty. These show examples of a highly developed pictorial art in a distinctive style, creations which surpass anything known elsewhere in the Far East for the period.

Of the special and minor arts of Korea, the manufacture of lacquerware is one of the oldest. The restraint of design in the earliest lacquer pieces shows the distinctive artistic feeling which is characteristic of finest Korean art.

Of many art exhibits in Korea today, the annual National Art Exhibit, sponsored by the Ministry of Education, is biggest. At this exhibit are shown not only traditional Korean paintings but also western style oil paintings, sculptures, lacquerware, handicrafts and calligraphy.

Korea's cultural monuments, granite stupas, temples, and other ancient architectural remnants are the indications of the development through centuries of a highly cultivated civilization. Though some of the cultural treasures have been partially destroyed or damaged, many still remain in good condition.

Korea's rich heritage of ancient music survives to the present day. The Yi Palace Orchestra, founded more than 500 years ago, still performs ancient court music in the old tradition. Korea also can boast many fine operatic and classical forms in addition to thousands of folk songs which are readily appreciated by Westerners. Korean concert-goers frequently hear performances by their own excellent orchestras of Western symphonic works.

The best examples of Korean architecture are the palaces and Buddhist temples. Following the general pattern of Oriental architecture. Korean architecture is distinguished by its perfect symmetry and serene. classic lines.

In the 15th century Korean scholars compiled an encyclopedia in 112 quarto volumes, 300 years before the encyclopedia movement originated in France.

The oldest and most continuous records of rainfall kept anywhere in the world are in Korea. In 1442 King Sejong had a bronze instrument devised to measure precipitation. In 1770 King Yongjo revived the system and had rain gauges placed in the palace grounds and in each of the eight provinces. Records were maintained continuously from that date. They provide an invaluable source of meteological information.

The first King of the Yi Dynasty conscripted 200,000 workmen to construct a great wall around his new capital city, Seoul. It was seven miles long, up to 20 feet wide and from 10 to 20 feet high. It contained four great and four smaller gates. Part of the wall, including the famous South and East Gates, still stands.

The ingenuity of the Korean people is evident from their inventions These include astronomical instruments (15th century), the world's first iron-clad battleship (about 1595), and movable printing type. One of the world's oldest existing astronomical observatories (7th century) still stands at Kyongju.

### **Economic** Conditions

**AGRICULTURE AND FISHING:** Korea has always been a predominantly agricultural country. Agriculture traditionally suffered from relatively low soil fertility, periods of flood and then of drought and an overcrowding of the land.

The government has spent large sums of money for irrigation and

for clearing of land to increase yields and the area under cultivation.

Rice is South Korea's principal crop, with barley and wheat next in importance. Agricultural production in 1964 included rice 3,248,000 tons; wheat, barley and rye 1,500,000 tons; other grains 107,000 tons; soybeans 200,000 tons. In 1964 the Republic of Korea had 1,400,000 work cattle, 27,000 horses, 1,600,000 pigs, 30,000 goats, 1,200,000 rabbits and 12,000,000 poultry.

Fish and marine life is abundant off the Korean coast. The fishing industry involves more than 1,000,000 people, with 700,000 Koreans engaged in actual fishing operations. Sea food rather than meat provides most of the animal protein in the Korean diet.

**INDUSTRY:** A new surge of energy pulsates through the nation's industrial scene. High tension lines hum day and night as improved hydro and steam generating plants supply the life blood of industry.

Skilled hands manipulate levers and buttons controlling precision machines that cut, stamp, grind, polish, producing products for expanding domestic and international markets.

In mines, holds of ships, factories, the nation's labor force bends to the task of supplying the raw materials and technical skill needed to keep pace with increasing production demands.

Owners of primitive handicraft shops and presidents of multi-million dollar industrial complexes alike strive to produce high quality products which can compete in international markets.

Government officials, economists, and financiers formulate realistic long-range reconstruction to exploit the nation's rich natural resources, utilize its sea of unemployed, invigorate the economy.

Motivated by Government efficiency, sound economic policies, encouraged by initial successes, labor and management push forward to accomplish the "Miracle on the Han."

Signs of animation are felt in every Korean industry.

**TRANSPORTATION:** The first railway was opened to traffic between Inchon and Seoul on September 18, 1899. Since the date, railroad and facilities have shown remarkable expansion and improvement. After the end of the Korean War, new track mileage has been laid and the numbers and quality of railing stock have been increased and improved. Steam locomotives have been replaced by modern diesel locomotives, which are vastly more efficient and economical. Railroad stations—once shambled ruins from aerial bombs and artillery fire—have been rebuilt and improved. Good train service is available from Pusan to Seoul, with connections to most principal cities.

The railway system is maintained by the Korean National Railways operated by the Ministry of Transportation. The Korean National Railways have 3,000 miles of railway track. Expansion and improvement of railway facilities are being continued at an accelerated pace to keep in Stride with the expanding national economy.

Because of the mountainous terrain and the lack of a complete railroad network reaching all parts of the country, highway transportation is of vital importance in Korea. Since the Military Armistice, the Korean Government has undertaken a nationwide program of highway construction; many new roads have been built, hard surfacing is being added to main highways, and all year round traffic by bus and truck to all parts of the country is available.

Korean Air Lines operates regular service between most principal cities. In addition, Korean Air Lines offers international flights between Seoul and Osaka, Japan. Northwest Orient Airlines operates six flights, Civil Air Transport three, and Japan Air Lines two weekly between Tokyo and Seoul. Cathay Pacific Airlines flies once a week to Hongkong.

#### National Flag and Flower

**KOREA'S FLAG:** One of the world's most beautiful and unique flags, that of the Republic of Korea, has in its center a circle of brilliant red and blue on a white background. Both the circle and the black bar designs in the corners are rich in symbolism.



The circle represents the Absolute, or the essential unity of all being. The Yang and the Eum divisions within the circle represent eternal duality: good and evil, male and female, day and night, life and death, being and not being, etc. The presence of duality within the absolute indicates the paradox of life and the impossibility of ever comprehending it completely.

The bar designs in the four corners have many meanings. They represent the mother, the sons, and the daughters. The bar combinations also represent the four points of the compass, and the four seas which bound the universe.

Actually, the symbolism of the flag has an endless meaning. It is sometimes used as an exercise in reasoning, or in development of the poetic imagination, as students interpret the design in manifold ways. For instance, the Yang and the Eum, within the circle, may be likened to the sun and the moon, to heaven and earth, to youth and old age, to beauty and ugliness, to truth and deception, to success and failure, to happiness and misery, etc.

From the bar arrangements, varied moral lessons may be drawn. Thus the weaker (two short) bars should be protected by the stronger (two long ones); but in the opposite corner, the more precious (long bar) should be protected by the less worthy (short bars). Like should cling to like, as in the three long bars together and the six short bars together; but also, tolerance should sanction the grouping of unlike, as in the other two bar designs.

The significant face about the Korean flag is not to draw it any one specific meaning, but rather to recognize that it is a symbolic and philosophical representation, encouraging the mind to observe and interpret all the varied meanings of the universe. It is this function of the Korean flag that makes it unique among all the banners of the world.

**NATIONAL FLOWER:** The lovely "Rose of Sharon" is the National Flower of Korea. It flourishes in full abundance in every type of soil and throughout the Korean peninsula. It first blossoms each year in early July, and the full glory of its profuse flowering continues into the autumn until its large and hardy shrubs are put to rest for the winter by October's frost.

Since time immemorial, the Rose of Sharon has been loved and cherished by all Koreans. And because they found its inherent hardihood and persistence so symbolic of the national character, it was inevitable that they would take its lovely blossoms to their hearts as their National Flower, which they named Mugunghwa, the Flower of Immortality.

/	



